



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
Washington DC 20420

October 31, 2019

In Reply Refer To: 001B  
**FOIA Request: 19-11210-F**

Austin R. Evers  
Executive Director  
American Oversight  
1030 15<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Suite B255  
Washington, DC 20005  
[Foia@americanoversight.org](mailto:Foia@americanoversight.org)

This is the Initial Agency Decision (IAD) from the Office of the Secretary, U.S. Dept. Veterans Affairs (OSVA) to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request received and dated September 4, 2019, and assigned FOIA tracking number **19-11210-F**. You requested "All email communications (including emails, email attachments, and calendar invitations) regardless of subject matter sent by (a) any of the employees listed in Column A below to (b) any of the individuals or entities listed in Column B below, including but not limited to at the email addresses and domains specified:

Column A: Federal Employees	Column B: Campaign Committees, Political Action Committees, Consultants, and Other Outside Organizations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert Wilkie</li><li>• Former Acting Secretary Peter O'Rourke</li><li>• Anyone communicating on behalf of Secretary Wilkie or Acting Secretary O'Rourke, including executive assistants, personal assistants, or schedulers.</li><li>• Chief of Staff Pamela J. Powers</li><li>• Any person serving in the capacity of White House Liaison.</li><li>• Assistant Secretary for Public and Intergovernmental Affairs James E. Hutton</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Donald J. Trump for President (@donaldtrump.com, @victory.donaldtrump.com, @trump.com, @donaldjtrump.com)</li><li>• Trump Make America Great Again Committee</li><li>• Trump Victory</li><li>• America First Action (@alapac.org, @prochcpas.com, @redprintstrategy.com)</li><li>• America First Policies (@americafirstpolicies.org)</li><li>• Republican National Committee (@gop.com, @rnchq.com)</li><li>• Great America Committee (@greatamericacommitee)</li><li>• Great America PAC (@GreatAmericaPAC.com)</li><li>• Great America Alliance (@greatamericaalliance.com)</li><li>• 45 Committee (@45committee.com)</li><li>• Committee to Defend the President (@committeetodefendthepresident.com, dan@political.law, @dbcapitolstrategies.com)</li><li>• Brad Parscale</li><li>• Parscale Strategies (@parscaledigital.com, @gilesparscale.com, @parscale.com)</li><li>• Thomas (Tommy) Hicks</li><li>• William Stepien (wstepien@aol.com, wstepienl@aol.com)</li><li>• Linda McMahon (@wwe.com, @wwecorp.com, @mcmahonventures.com, @mcm06.com)</li><li>• Nick Ayers Gnayers@gmail.com, na@nickayers.com, nick@targetla.com)</li><li>• Rob Porter</li><li>• Stefan Passantino (spassantino@michaelbest.com, stefanpassantino@onebox.com)</li><li>• Hope Hicks</li><li>• Tim Murtaugh</li><li>• Kayleigh McEnany</li><li>• Ronna McDaniel</li></ul>

### **IAD and Reasonable Searches Dated 9/12/19 & 10/31/19**

On September 12, 2019, our search cut-off date, the OSVA FOIA Officer requested that the VA OIT office provide all responsive records, if any, with date timeframe of June 1, 2018, to September 12, 2019 within the email boxes and calendar entries of: 1) Robert Wilkie, 2) Peter O'Rourke, 3) Pam Powers, 4) Casin Spero, and 5) Executive Assistant for both Robert Wilkie and Peter O'Rourke. On September 20, 2019, the VA OIT office provided preliminary search results.

On October 31, 2019, the OSVA FOIA Officer conducted a second, follow-up search with date timeframe of June 1, 2018, to September 12, 2019 within the email boxes and calendar entries of: 1) Robert Wilkie, 2) Peter O'Rourke, 3) Pam Powers, 4) Casin Spero, and 5) Executive Assistant for both Robert Wilkie and Peter O'Rourke.

The OSVA FOIA Officer looked for any emails or calendar entries to, from, or copying the following email addresses or domains or names:

1) @donaldtrump.com, 2) @victory.donaldtrump.com, 3) @trump.com, 4) @donaldjtrump.com, 5) Trump, 6) @a1apac.org, 7) @prochcpas.com, 8) @redprintstrategy.com, 9) @americafirstpolicies.org, 10) @gop.com, 11) @rnchq.com, 12) @greatamericacommittee.com, 13) @greatamericaPAC.com, 14) @greatamericaalliance.com, 15) @45committee.com, 16) @committeetodefendthepresident.com, 17) [dan@political.law](mailto:dan@political.law), 18) @dbcapitaolstrategies.com, 19) Parscale, 20) @parscaledigital.com, 21) @gilesparscale.com, 22) @parscale.com, 23) Hicks, 24) [wstepien@aol.com](mailto:wstepien@aol.com), 25) [wstepien1@aol.com](mailto:wstepien1@aol.com), 26) @wwe.com, 27) @wwecorp.com, 28) @mcmahonventures.com, 29) @mcm06.com, 30) [inayers@gmail.com](mailto:inayers@gmail.com), 31) [na@nickayers.com](mailto:na@nickayers.com), 32) [nick@targetla.com](mailto:nick@targetla.com), 33) Porter, 34) [spassantino@michaelbest.com](mailto:spassantino@michaelbest.com), 35) [stefanpassantino@onebox.com](mailto:stefanpassantino@onebox.com), 36) Hope, 37) Murtaugh, 38) McEnany, or 39) McDaniel.

Despite these two (2) separate, reasonable searches, the OSVA FOIA Officer found no responsive records. Thus, OSVA issues you a "no records" response.

### **FOIA Mediation**

As part of the 2007 FOIA amendments, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) was created to offer mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. Using OGIS services does not affect your right to pursue litigation. Under the provisions of the FOIA Improvement Act of 2016, the following contact information is provided to assist FOIA requesters in resolving disputes:

#### **VA Central Office FOIA Public Liaison:**

Name: John Buck

Email Address: [vacofoiaservice@va.gov](mailto:vacofoiaservice@va.gov)

#### **Office of Government Information Services (OGIS)**

Email Address: [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov)

Fax: 202-741-5769

Mailing address:

National Archives and Records Administration

8601 Adelphi Road

College Park, MD 20740-6001

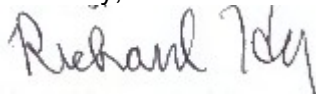
**FOIA Appeal**

This concludes OSVA's Initial Agency Decision to request **19-11210-F**. Please be advised that should you desire to do so, you may appeal the determination made in this response to:

Office of General Counsel (024)  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
810 Vermont Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20420

If you should choose to file an appeal, please include a copy of this letter with your written appeal and clearly indicate the basis for your disagreement with the determination set forth in this response. Please be advised that in accordance with VA's implementing FOIA regulations at 38 C.F.R. § 1.559, your appeal must be postmarked no later than ninety (90) days of the date of this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Richard Ha".

Richard Ha, JD, CIPP/G  
OSVA FOIA Officer